Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* Nothing can be promised as the cost of land round about Kumbalanghi and Palluruthi is very high. Government cannot at this stage make any assurance.

Mr. President: The T. D. High School is given only 1/3 grant by the Government.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* The Government may be pleased to give 1/3 there also. There is no reason why Government should give only to one institution.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* The only reason is that till Government have funds to do these they need not give grants to any.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* My view is that, now that we have got a surplus of 10 lakhs happily, the Government may be pleased to consider the question of giving play grounds to these schools so that the future generation may become healthy.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction:)* It is not possible.

ERAVU AIDED SCHOOL BUILDING—COLLAPSE OF

16. Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty *(Ezhuvas-Trichur):* Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether students of the aided school at Eravu sustained injuries while in the school;

(*b*) how the injuries were caused;

(*c*) the number of students that sustained injuries;

(*d*) whether they were admitted in the hospital and for how many days they were treated;

(*e*) whether any action has been taken by the Government against the Manager;

(*f*) whether the school is still being conducted in the same building;

(*g*) whether petitions have been received by the Government from the people of the locality;

(*h*) if so, will the Government be pleased to place them on the table?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):*

(*a*) Yes; minor ones.

(*b*) The injuries were caused by the collapse of the roof of the school building.

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(*c*) Eleven.

(*d*) They were given necessary medical aid at the Anthikkad Hospital. Three pupils were treated for about 2½ months. The others were treated for periods varying from 2 to 15 days.

(*e*) Yes; the grant of the school was suspended until further orders. The Manager was asked to close down the school until the building was properly reconstructed and necessary fitness certificate produced from the Public Works Department. The Manager was also ordered to be prosecuted for criminal negligence and the prosecution is proceeding.

(*f*) Yes; the school was reopened on production of fitness certificate for the building from the Public Works Department.

(*g*) Yes; there was one petition.

(*h*) A copy of the petition is placed on the table.*

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* Why were they treated for 2½ months?

Mr. President : Order, Order. It is *sub-judice.*

K. N. PADMANABHAN—PUPIL OF CHERAI HIGH SCHOOL—ALLEGED ASSAULT ON

17. Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether the Director of Public Instruction did receive any petition, dated 15th Mithunam 1115, from K. N. Padmanabhan, student, Form VI, Ramavarma Union High School, Cherai, alleging among other things that a teacher of the Lower Secondary Schools Edavanakad, assaulted him on 15th Mithunam 1115;

(*b*) whether a petition containing the very same allegations, dated 15th Karkadagam 1115 was received in the Huzur Secretariat;

(*c*) if answer to (*a*) or (*b*) is in the affirmative, what were the allegations and against whom;

(*d*) whether any enquiry was made into the allegations;

(*e*) what was the result of the enquiry?

* Appendix I.

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APPENDIX I

Copy of the petition dated 8th Kanni 1115 from Raman Nayar and others

(Please see answer to question No. 16)

(The petitioners are residents of the Erava Village, Arimpur Praverthy, Trichur Taluk).

The collapse of the Eravu Primary School on 4th Karkadagam 1115 has attracted the kindly attention of the Government. It is the only educational institution in this village. In the Arimpur Pravarthy there are only two more Primary Schools and not even a Secondary School. All the schools now existing are either grant-in-aid ones or conducted in rented buildings. The Government have not till now expended a pie for housing an educational institution in this locality.

2. This Pravarthy is an extensive one comprising of 4 Villages. The population is over 4,000. On all sides we are surrounded by water about a mile wide. The school-going public especially in their child-hood have to satisfy themselves with the education imparted within these villages.

3. The Eravu School is owned and managed by an outsider from purely commercial motives. It has a strength of 350. The school building is shabby, and built of the poorest material—mud and softwood. It was left in a sad state of disrepair. We had repeatedly brought this fact to the notice of the manager. In spite of this we were unable to avert its calamitious fall injuring several students. Four of them were hurt grievously and were detained in hospital for over a month and a half. The school has remained closed ever since and the pupils are loitering about being left without education. The building is even now not in a fit condition for use.

4. We beg to point out that the Government have meted out to us only step-motherly treatment. Few areas are with so few schools in the State and none of them so poorly housed. We hope that the Government may feel some compassion for our little ones after the tragic collapse of the Eravu School building.

Therefore we humbly pray that the Government may be pleased to order the early construction of a Government Primary School in Eravu, the first of its kind in these villages.

APPENDIX II

NOTIFICATION

Under section 18 of the Cochin State Aid to Industries Act, X of 1111, Government are pleased to make the following amendment to the rules issued as per Notification No. 15, dated 27th Kanni 1112, as subsequently amended. The amendment will be laid on the Legislative Council Table on 3rd Vrischigam 1116 (18th November 1940), and subject to the modifications, if any, made by the Legislative Council, will come into force from 3rd Dhanu 1116.

Amendment

After Rule 11-E add the following as Rule 11-F.—

"11-F. In the case of loans the amount of which does not exceed Rs. 10,000 the amount advanced shall not exceed 65 per cent of the net value of the assets of the business or enterprise".

(By order of the Government of Cochin)

P. V. RAPHAEL

Joint Secretary to Government

The Huzur Secretariat,
Finance Department,
24th October 1940.

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